

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00333 281636Z

43/11  
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W  
----- 026761

P 280940Z MAR 75 ZEL  
FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3379  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL LUANDA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL LOURENCO MARQUES 333

CORRECTED COPY (KINSHASA ADDED AS INFO ADDEE)

EE.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AO, PO, MZ  
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH MOZAMBIQUE HIGH COMMISSIONER CRESPO  
ON PORTUGAL AND ANGOLA

REF: LUANDA 327

1. IN MARCH 27 CALL ON HIGH COMMISSIONER ADMIRAL VICTOR CRESPO  
AT MY REQUEST I CONGRATULATED HIM ON HIS ELECTION TO THE  
REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND ATTEMPTED TO DRAW HIM OUT ON SIG-  
NIFICANCE OF INCLUSION ON COUNCIL OF HIM PLUS MAJORS MELO  
ANTUNES AND VITOR ALVES WHO HE HAD TOLD ME WERE CLOSE FRIENDS  
OF HIS. HIGH COMMISSIONER SEEMED DISCOMFITED BY MY PROBING  
AND SAID THAT THERE WAS NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE--IN FACT IT  
HAD BEEN INTENDED ALL ALONG THAT THEY WOULD BE INCLUDED. AS I  
WOULD REALIZE THEY HAD RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT POSITIONS, I.E.,  
HE WAS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR MOZAMBIQUE AND THE TWO MAJORS  
HAD BEEN MINISTERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. MELO ANTUNES WAS NOW  
FOREIGN MINISTER AND ALVES WOULD HAVE ANOTHER IMPORTANT POSI-  
TION. CRESPO ALSO WAS RATHER TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT HIS VIEWS ON  
EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, SAYING ONLY THAT HE THOUGHT THE MFA PRO-  
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PAGE 02 LOUREN 00333 281636Z

GRAM WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. I SAID REPORTS OF GROWING ANTI-

AMERICANISM IN PORTUGAL WERE WORRISOME AND WONDERED WHAT HIS OPINION WAS. I MENTIONED THAT REPORTS OF THE AMERICAN FLEET SAILING UP THE TAGUS AND AMERICAN PLANES FLYING OVER PORTUGAL MUST BE ALARMING TO THE PORTUGUESE. HE REPLIED THAT THE LEADERS OF PORTUGAL WERE WELL AWARE OF THE REAL SITUATION. I ASKED HIM IF THE PEOPLE WERE NOT TAKEN IN BY THESE RUMORS. HE SAID THAT MANY PEOPLE HAD BELIEVED THESE RUMORS BUT THAT THEY HAD BEEN DENIED BY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. HE AGREED THAT THERE WAS A STRONG CURRENT OF ANTI-AMERICANISM AND FEARS OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION. HE STATED HE HOPED THE LATTER WOULD NOT COME ABOUT. I RETORTED VERY QUICKLY, "OBVIOUSLY NOT".

2. HIGH COMMISSIONER THEN TURNED TO SUBJECT OF ANGOLA, WHERE HE SAID SITUATION WAS VERY SERIOUS. FIGHTING BETWEEN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SHOWED A CLEAR PATTERN OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION. I RAISED AN EYEBROW AND SAID, "FOREIGN"? HE REPLIED, "YES, FOREIGN". I ASKED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HIS OPINION AS TO WHO HAD STARTED THE FRACAS BETWEEN THE MPLA AND THE FNLA. HE REPLIED IT WAS NOT IMPORTANT WHO STARTED THE FIGHTING. WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS THAT PORTUGAL WAS DETERMINED TO INSURE STABILITY IN ANGOLA AND RAPID DECOLONIZATION. PORTUGAL WOULD NOT TOLERATE ANY FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. AT THIS POINT, I REPLIED THAT WHILE I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, IF HE WAS REFERRING TO THE UNITED STATES, I COULD ASSURE HIM THAT WE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF INTERVENING IN ANY WAY AND THAT THE USG SHARED THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE FOR STABILITY IN ANGOLA.

3. CRESPO, WHO SEEMED ESPECIALLY TENSE, THOUGH FRIENDLY AS USUAL, WENT ON TO SAY THAT EVERYONE SHOULD REALIZE THAT THE MPLA COULD NOT WIN, THAT IT WAS IN A POSITION OF INFERIORITY. (THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT ANYONE WHO BACKED THE FNLA BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID OF THE MPLA WAS MAKING A MISTAKE.) I ASKED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WHETHER I UNDERSTOOD HIM CORRECTLY. DID HE MEAN TO IMPLY THAT THERE WAS FOREIGN INTERVENTION ON BOTH SIDES? HE REPLIED THAT ACCORDING TO PORTUGUESE INFORMATION IT WAS ONLY ON ONE SIDE. THE DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT ENDED WITH MY STATING THAT IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIS REMARKS, I WOULD REPORT THEM TO MY GOVERNMENT. HE NODDED HIS ASSENT.

4. SEPARATE REPORTS FOLLOW ON OTHER SUBJECTS COVERED.

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PAGE 03 LOUREN 00333 281636Z

TM HIGH COMMISSIONER AND TODAY'S PRESS REPORT MELO ANTUNES DUE TO VISIT MOZAMBIQUE AND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES BRIEFLY AFTER LUANDA.

6. COMMENT: THOUGH CRESPO DID NOT SPECIFICALLY NAME THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH FOREIGN INTERVENTION, CONTEXT AND TONE OF HIS REMARKS INDICATED TO ME HE WAS POINTING A

FINGER AT US, AT LEAST AS FAR AS HE MAY THINK WE ARE BEHIND  
ZAIRE'S SUPPORT OF FNL.  
WALKER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAR 1975  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LOUREN00333  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750109-0647  
**From:** LOURENCO MARQUES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975037/aaaaafps.tel  
**Line Count:** 118  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 LUANDA 327  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONVERSATION WITH MOZAMBIQUE HIGH COMMISSIONER CRESPO ON PORTUGAL AND ANGOLA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, AO, PO, MZ, US, (CRESPO, VICTOR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006